

# STEP Experience: Battelle Memorial Institute

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## What Did You Learn?

During my STEP Signature Project, I was introduced to a real world office for the first time. However, unlike most corporate offices, I also learned about Good Laboratory Practice rules and regulations. I was trained to calibrate pipettes and analytical balances, as well as bio hazard handling and shipping. This ultimately was crucial for my own safety and that of my colleagues. I learned very quickly what professionalism looks like at my desk, as well as the hard work that I would have to put in for scientists performing important studies and who relied on me in the lab. Being at Battelle, I also was faced with keeping very confidential information to myself every day. My main take-away was that it was very humbling being a part of something so innovative and important whenever I went to work this summer.



Image 1: Battelle Memorial Institute Logo

## How did your experience impact you personally?

I was trained by a fellow OSU student named Hannah. Hannah is so incredibly driven and skilled, and she ultimately taught me everything that I know. Hannah had a good approach to work, she was very serious in the lab spaces and when she needed to be with colleagues, but she also laughed at her own mistakes and made me feel welcomed. I can't thank Hannah enough for introducing me to the corporate world. Had she not been there, I would have been significantly younger than most of our other colleagues and I think that would have hindered their image of my potential.

Second, Dan was the next relationship that I take much appreciation in. Dan was the one who trained me on calibration of pipettes and analytical balances. Dan is so incredibly smart, and he definitely is able to hone that into his teaching skills of being able to slow down/speed up for his individual students. Dan cared about us learning, and he definitely helped us grow as young professionals as well as students outside of the classroom.

## Experience Description



Image 2: Battelle Memorial Institute Street View

My STEP Signature Project entailed working at Battelle Memorial Institute during the summer of 2017. I worked in the CTC (Chemical Technical Center) Division as a Laboratory Custodian. This meant that I helped clean glassware, ordered stock solvents, ordered general lab equipment, and microfiched/filed past studies.



Image 3: Battelle Memorial Institute Laboratory

## How did your experience impact your academic, personal, and life goals moving forward?

I really value my time at Battelle. However, my experience has showed me that I do not wish to pursue a career in a laboratory setting. I did not like how we had to comply to so many different rules (government, corporate, state, etc.) and how one wrong move could put everyone off task. We also had an instance where a company pulled out all their studies, and this really hurt the work flow for me and my colleagues. However, I will say that I did like the business side of Battelle. It was very interesting seeing how we interacted with other companies and humbling to be asked to be a part of all the work going into the studies.

I have since been accepted into the Doctor of Pharmacy program here at Ohio State. In my application, I was able to put all my certifications from Battelle, as well as ask my manager for a recommendation letter. I think Battelle will always give me an interesting edge and I value my experience there every day.

## Favorite part of your experience

I can say with confidence that the people I met at Battelle shaped my experience there. Battelle is so innovative, and that can definitely be intimidating when you are one of the youngest ones there, but the people I befriended made that transition so much easier. I enjoyed being of assistance whenever possible, and I very well learned how to allocate my time efficiently. STEP helped fund my summer in Columbus and thus my time at Battelle, and for that I am very grateful.



Images 3 & 4: The Ohio State University Best 10 Pharmacy School Accreditation and Parks Hall street view

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 STEP: Second-Year Transformational Experience Program, [step.osu.edu/](http://step.osu.edu/).

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